

### **Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 4-5, with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a Continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/793,250, filed on February 26, 2001, now abandoned, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Please replace the paragraph at page 58, line 15 to page 59, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

In the sidedraw-side section of column 60, each of two temperature measuring devices 251 and 253 establishes a signal representative of the temperature of the fluid at each of two respective plates in the sidedraw section of column 60. Each signal is inputted into summing device 252. Summing device 252 multiplies one of the signals by a scalar of 0.6 to compute a first product, multiplies the other signal by a scalar of 0.4 to arrive at a second product, adds the two products, and then generates output signal 254 which is representative of the sum of the products. Output signal 254 in turn is inputted into controller 255, which compares output signal 254 with a set point that is representative of the desired sum of the products and establishes output signal 256. Output signal 256 is responsive to the difference between output signal 254 and the set point of controller 255. Output signal 256 is the set point to flow controller 257, which compares that set point with a signal representative of the reflux flow rate through conduit 116 measured by a flow measuring device, such as an orifice meter or a turbine meter. Flow controller 257 establishes output signal 258 which is representative of the difference between output signal/set point 256 and the signal representative of the reflux flow rate through conduit 116. Output signal 258 adjusts the position of regulating valve 260, which changes the reflux flow rate.

Please replace the paragraph at page 59, line 17 to page 60, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

In the lower vapor-liquid contacting area of column 60, a temperature measuring device 239 establishes a signal representative of the temperature of the fluid at a plate in the lower vapor-liquid contacting area of column 60. That signal in turn is inputted into temperature controller 240, which compares the signal representative of the fluid temperature on the plate with a set point that is representative of the desired fluid temperature on that plate and establishes output signal 241. Output signal 241 is responsive to the difference between the signal representative of the fluid temperature and the set point of temperature controller 240. Output signal 241 is the set point to flow controller 242, which compares that set point with a signal representative of the flow rate of the stream through conduit 55 to the sidedraw section below accumulator plate 98 in column 60. The flow rate through conduit 55 is measured by a flow measuring device, such as an orifice meter or a turbine meter. Flow controller 242 establishes output signal 243 which is representative of the difference between output signal/set point 241 and the signal representative of the flow rate through conduit 55. Output signal 243 adjusts the position of regulating valve 244, which changes the flow rate through conduit 55.